got damaged during transportation to other regions. The quantity damaged works out to 0.139% of the total foodgrains handled by FCI during the last 10 years.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. the Government had formulated the following action plan for proper upkeep and storage of foodgrains in godowns of FCI:

(i) All FCI godowns to be constructed as per specifications and foodgrains stored by adopting scientific storage practices.

(ii) The adequate dunnage materials, fumigation covers and chemicals to be provided in all the godowns.

(iii) Prophylactic and curative treatments to be carried out regularly and timely for the control of stored grain insect pests.

(iv) Foodgrains in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) storage to be stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates used as dunnage material. Stacks should be properly covered with specifically fabricated low-density black polythene water proof covers and tied with nylon ropes/nets.

(v) Regular periodic inspections of the stocks/godowns are to be undertaken by qualified and trained staff of FCI.

(vi) The principle of "First in First Out" (FIFO) is to be adopted to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.

(vii) Only covered wagons are to be used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damages during transit.

Quality and prices of consumer goods at State-owned co-operative stores

62. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that quality and prices of consumer goods at State-owned co-operative stores and Mother Dairy are not offering much competition to multinationals and big enterprises retail business;

(b) if so, whether State co-operative stores and Mother Dairy will close down like Super Bazar; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve quality and prices to make them more competitive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (c) Some State owned cooperatives and other organizations like Mother Dairy have been operating in certain specific market segments. They have also been able to develop their own brand equity in this segment and to this extent are able to give competition to Multi National Companies. These cooperatives serve as aggregators to primary cooperatives and offer good services to their customers. So long as they keep doing this efficiently, there is no question of their closing down.

(i) Apply technology and processes to enhance productivity and ensures quality at competitive price.

(ii) Apply processes for clean production, pollution prevention and optimize resource utilization in all operations.

(iii) Follow food safety management system and apply Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) principles to provide safe products to customers.

Maternal mortality

63. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether latest maternal mortality report, compiled by WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, and World Bank has revealed horrid scenario of post natal deaths and maternal mortality in India;

(b) if so, the detailed findings thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the MMR and IMR in the country, State-wise along with comparative figures of other countries; and

(d) the number of PHCs in the country, State-wise and how many have facilities of labour room and operation theatre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) As per Estimates of Maternal Mortality developed by WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA and World Bank for the year 2005, the publication, 'Maternal Mortality in 2005', published in the year 2007, the MMR of India is 450 per 1,00,000 live births. The details of this report on MMR for India and other countries are given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 214, Annexure No. 2]

However, as per the latest survey report of Registrar General of India (RGI-SRS 2001-03) published in the year 2006, the Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) for India is 301 100,000 live births.

MMR of India and State wise is given in Annexure.[*See* Appendix 214, Annexure No. 2(A)] and in comparison to other countries at Annexure. [*See* Appendix 214, Annexure No. 2]

IMR for India and state wise as per SRS Bulletin October 2008 is given in Annexure. [*See* Appendix 214, Annexure No. 2(B)]. Comparison with other countries is not available in SRS. However a comparison of IMR for India and other countries as per the report on State of the World's Children 2008 (UNICEF) is given in Annexure. [*See* Appendix 214, Annexure No. 2(C)].

The number of PHCs in India are 22,370 and given in Annexure. [*See* Appendix 214, Annexure No. 2(D)]. Of these 10,522 PHCs have facilities of Labour Room and 9273 have an Operation Theatre as given in Annexure. [*See* Appendix 214, Annexure No. 2(E)] as per Bulletin of Rural Health Statistics, 2007, Government of India.